

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM IX-X

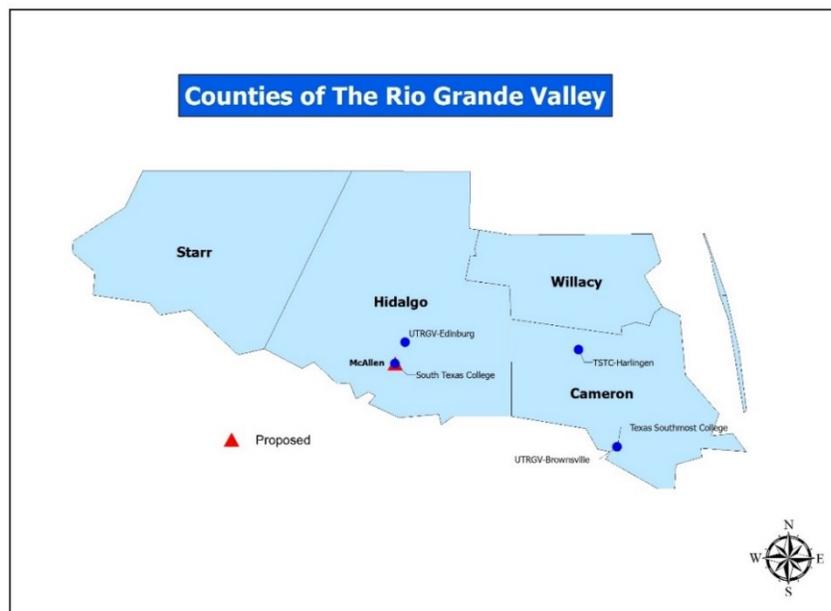
Consideration of adopting staff recommendation to the Board relating to the request from Texas A&M University to establish a Single Institution Center in McAllen

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Single Institution Center in McAllen and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Engineering Program

The proposal responds to the request from Texas A&M University to establish a Single Institution Center in McAllen, Texas and conforms to Coordinating Board rules, Section 5.73(6), on the establishment of Higher Education Centers. The Board's authority extends to the approval of single institution centers, single system centers, branch campuses, and multi-institution teaching centers (MITC). It does not extend to the approval of facilities.

Background Information:

Off-campus education units are a means to extend academic credit courses and programs from a parent institution to locations away from an institution's main campus. Large off-campus units, called Higher Education Centers, are expected to have substantial and growing student enrollments and a broad array of courses and programs that are offered by a single institution, by a system, or by multiple, unrelated institutions. They have minimal on-site administration and, usually, locally provided facilities.



Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter D, Section 5.73(6), require that off-campus higher education centers must receive Coordinating Board or Legislative approval due to the magnitude of their anticipated student enrollments.

The criteria used to evaluate requests for off-campus educational units are:

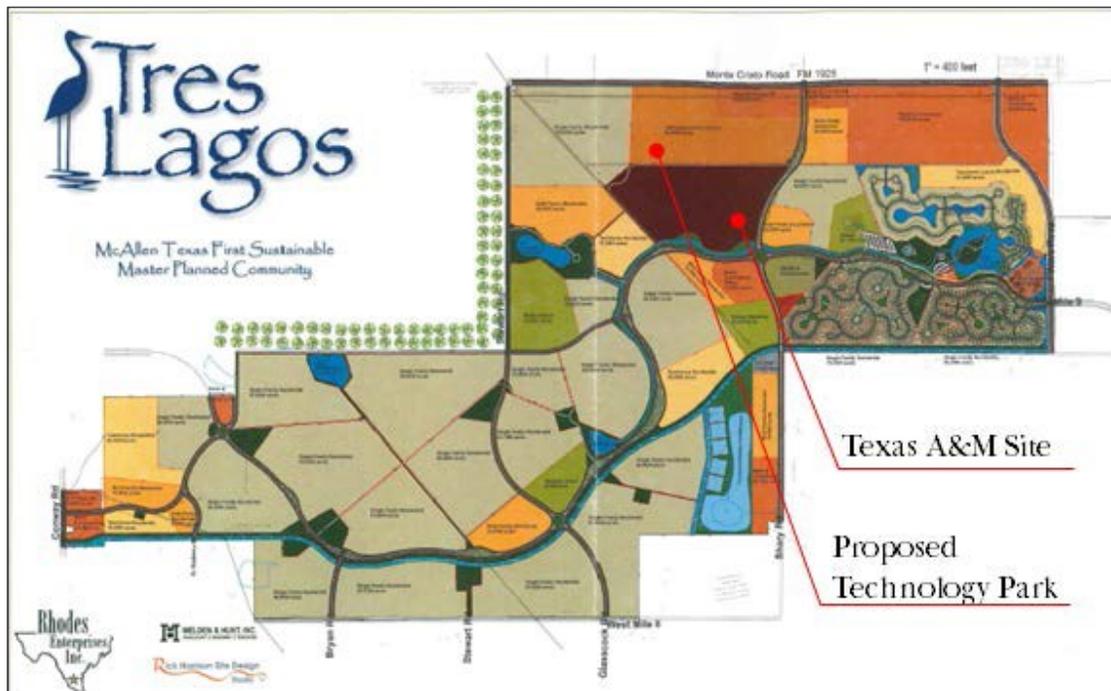
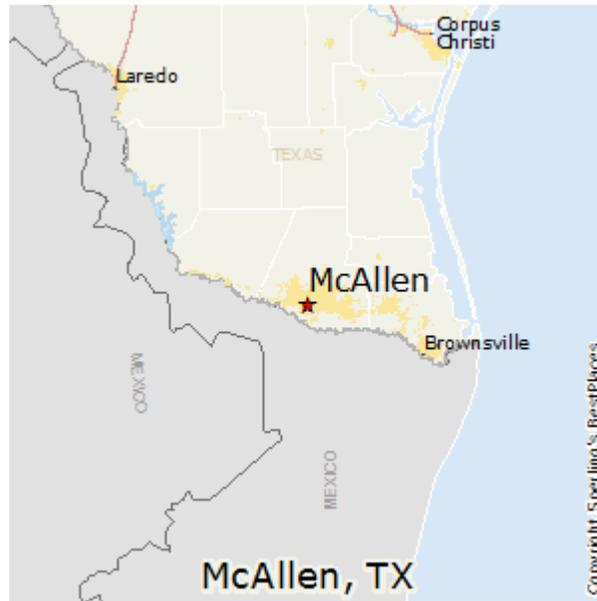
- need for the facility based on projected student enrollments;
- duplication of the offerings of existing institutions and higher education facilities within one hour's driving time of the proposed center;
- access for students who might otherwise not enroll in upper-division and graduate courses;
- faculty resources;
- prospects for provision of high-quality teaching and learning;
- adequacy of student support services; and
- need for the proposed programs.

1. Need: Rationale for the Proposed Designation:

The current population of the Texas Rio Grande Valley is 1,350,158 and is projected to reach 1,594,805 by the year 2020. The current higher education institution options available for residents of the Rio Grande Valley are The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), Texas State Technical College-Harlingen, Texas Southmost College, and South Texas College. The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center, School of Rural and Public Health Campus, McAllen and TAMU-Kingsville, University Citrus Center offer courses and programs in the region. Texas A&M University, College Station plans to begin offering the BS in Public Health in the fall of 2016 at the Public Health Campus.

The TAMU Citrus Center was established in 1948 and the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center (TAMUSHSC) School of Rural and Public Health Campus was established in 2000. An Agriculture Research extension center was established in Weslaco in 1923 and a Prospective Student Center was established in McAllen in 2004, however there are no programs being offered at these sites at this time.

The proposed location of the TAMU Center at McAllen is 6200 Tres Lagos Boulevard McAllen, Texas 787654. The center would be located approximately 10 miles from UTRGV-Edinburg campus and approximately 60 miles from UTRGV-Brownsville campus. Several community and technical colleges are similar distances from the proposed site.



TAMU initially proposed to offer the following programs at the Higher Education Center at McAllen:

- Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Engineering (CIP 15.0000.00) (Fall 2017)
- Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology (CIP 14.0101.00) (Fall 2017)
- Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science (CIP 26.0102.00) (Fall 2018)
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Science (CIP 01.0000.00) (Fall 2018)

The projected enrollment at the TAMU Higher Education Center at McAllen for the next five years are displayed in the chart below:

Year (Fall Term)	Headcount	FTSE**
2017*	100	75
2018	220	165
2019	390	292.5
2020	550	412.5
2021	625	468.75

* Housed at various off-campus sites.

** Used factor of 0.75

TAMU reported it conducted an extensive needs assessment before proposing to offer programs and courses in the Rio Grande Valley. An advisory committee composed of economic development, governmental, educational, and corporate leaders from across the lower Rio Grande Valley analyzed the educational and workforce needs of the region. The institution asserts, based on the work of the advisory committee, that the programming that will be offered through the TAMU Center at McAllen would benefit the Rio Grande Valley region. The advisory committee identified specific regional training needs in the areas of manufacturing automation and control, environmental sciences and engineering, food handling and safety, and biomedical sciences.

Additional information gathered from the Brownsville Economic Council and findings from a March 2016 McAllen town hall meeting indicated that the proposed programming for the TAMU Center would meet the region’s needs in the following areas: manufacturing across all industry sectors, health sciences and related professions, water and environmental issues, food safety, and teachers and education administration.

The TAMU System institutions currently offer the following programs in the Rio Grande Valley region:

- TAMU at TAMUS-HSC School of Rural and Public Health Campus - BS in Public Health
- TAMUS-HSC, School of Rural and Public Health Campus - MPH in Health Promotion and Community Health
- TAMU-Kingsville, University Citrus Center – MS in Plant and Soil Science

The TAMU BS in Public Health program was approved in June of 2014 for off-campus delivery at the TAMUSHSC School of Rural and Public Health Campus. TAMU did not begin delivering the program at the School of Rural and Public Health Campus until the fall of 2016.

Approval of the TAMU Center at McAllen would provide formal Coordinating Board recognition of TAMU activities in the Rio Grande Valley region. Such recognition would help assure the long-term stability of programs offered there by enabling the university to invest greater resources in infrastructure, student services, and personnel. The proposed designation as a Center would also place the TAMU Center at McAllen on the higher-education locator map (HELM).

- Duplication of the offerings of existing public institutions and higher education facilities within one hour’s driving time of the proposed center:

TAMU proposes to offer the following programs at the Higher Education Center at McAllen:

- Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Engineering (CIP 14.0101.00) (Fall 2017)
- Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology (CIP 15.0000.00) (Fall 2017)
- Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science (CIP 26.0102.00) (Fall 2018)
- Baccalaureate degree in Agriculture (CIP 01.0000.00) (Fall 2018)

If approved, these programs would be new to TAMU in the Rio Grande Valley.

The Interdisciplinary Engineering and Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology programs will be initiated prior to the projected spring 2018 construction completion date for the TAMU Center and will be offered at one of the currently operating TAMU teaching sites in the McAllen/Weslaco area.

The following chart displays the projected enrollment by major for the programs to be delivered at the proposed TAMU Center.

Degree Program	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2011	2021-2022
BS in Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology (CIP 15.0000.00)	40	80	120	150	150
BS in Interdisciplinary Engineering (CIP 14.0101.00)	60	90	120	150	150
BS in Biomedical Science (CIP 26.0102.00)		50	100	150	175
BS in Agriculture Science (CIP 01.0000.00)			50	100	150
FTE Students	75	165	292.5	412.5	468.75

UTRGV offers the BS in Engineering Technology (CIP 15.0000.00) and BS in Biomedical Science (CIP 26.0102.00). UTRGV reported the fall 2015 enrollment for freshman through senior classified students in the BS in Engineering Technology (CIP 15.000.00) program as 81 students and the BS in Biomedical Science program as 477 students. Of the 81 students enrolled in the BS in Engineering Technology program, 72 are from the Rio Grande Valley. Of the 477 students enrolled in the BS in Biomedical Science program, 444 are from the Rio Grande Valley.

A general academic institution that wishes to offer new programs or courses must notify any other institution of higher education within a fifty mile radius of the proposed location of the programs or courses to be offered. TAMU notified all institutions within a 50 mile radius of the intent to offer the following programs:

- Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science

UTRGV has formally objected to the latter two programs, citing unnecessary duplication with programs offered by them. Coordinating rules dictate the following process:

- (1) Institutions must be notified at least 60 days prior to the expected start date of any course or program.
- (2) Notified institutions have 30 days to respond, indicating acceptance or raising an objection.
- (3) If objections are raised the contending parties are asked to try to resolve their differences
- (4) If no agreement can be reached, the proposal to offer contested courses or programs may be withdrawn, or the Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce makes a determination.

TAMU and UTRGV have met via conference call, but no resolution was reached. The 30 day period has not expired. The parties have agreed to continue negotiations. Thus, the recommendation at this time is to approve the Center and the single uncontested program. Further, it should be noted that UTRGV did not object to the Center.

3. Access for students who might otherwise not enroll in upper-division and graduate courses:

Enrollment

There are three community and technical colleges within a fifty mile radius of the proposed TAMU Center; South Texas College, Texas Southmost College, and Texas State Technical College-Harlingen. The University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley is the only university within the 50-mile radius of the proposed TAMU Center. The following chart displays the fall enrollments for the community and technical colleges and the university from 2011 – 2015.

Fall Enrollments	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Community and Technical Colleges					
TSTC-Harlingen	5807	5509	5332	5225	4789
South Texas College	29513	29812	30233	30849	33994
Texas Southmost College	10503	5893	3673	3895	4029
Universities					
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley					28584
The University of Texas-Pan American	19034	19302	20053	21015	
The University of Texas at Brownsville	8625	8146	8570	8009	

The fall 2015 enrollment for UTRGV was 28,584 total headcount and 21,724 full-time student equivalent enrollment. The projected 2020 UTRGV total headcount enrollment is 33,083. TAMU provided Texas Education Agency data showing that there were approximately 20,440 high school graduates from the targeted Rio Grande Valley counties in 2015. TAMU asserts

that there are sufficient numbers of potential students to support their enrollment projections and not significantly impact enrollments at UTRGV.

Transfer Students

The chart below summarizes the total number of students transferring to UTPA or UTB during the fall semesters from 2011 through 2014 at community and technical colleges within a 50-mile radius of the TAMU Center.

Number of Students Transferring to UTPA and UTB	2011	2012	2013	2014
TSTC-Harlingen	137	138	59	117
South Texas College	823	852	851	833
Texas Southmost College	438	645	225	79

Associate and Bachelor Degrees Awarded

The charts below summarize the number of associate and bachelor degrees awarded by the institutions of higher education within a 50-mile radius of the TAMU Center for the 2011 – 2015 academic years.

Associate Degrees Awarded	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
TSTC-Harlingen	22	53	48	70	74
South Texas College	1527	1836	1911	2142	2423
Texas Southmost College	589	626	498	280	195

Bachelor Degrees Awarded	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*	*	*	*	*
The University of Texas-Pan American	2658	2462	2817	2785	3026
The University of Texas at Brownsville	1075	1149	1012	1069	1141

Graduation and Persistence

The chart below summarizes the six year graduation and persistence rates for the institutions of higher education within a 50-mile radius of the TAMU Center.

Six Year Graduation and Persistence Rate	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
TSTC-Harlingen	37.20%	38.10%	34.10%	33.10%	36.00%
South Texas College	43.50%	42.00%	45.50%	47.20%	42.10%
Texas Southmost College	42.80%	41.30%	40.30%	44.60%	46.80%

Six Year Graduation and Persistence Rate	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*	*	*	*	*
The University of Texas-Pan American	64.40%	61.90%	60.80%	65.60%	58.90%
The University of Texas at Brownsville	0%	0%	61.30%	63.20%	57.20%

4. Faculty resources:

Faculty members teaching courses at the TAMU Center at McAllen will be employees (either full- or part-time) of the university and meet all Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and relevant accreditor requirements. All faculty members are accountable to the TAMU administrators at the department, school, and institutional levels.

5. Prospects for provision of high quality teaching and learning:

Degree programs offered at the Center will be under the control of the department offering the degree; the program offerings are extensions of the programs offered by TAMU at College Station. All admission criteria and curricular content will be under the control of the department offering the degree and requirements will be the same whether the student studies with TAMU at the Center or at College Station.

6. Adequacy of student support services:

The majority of student services will be handled through TAMU at College Station. These services include admission and graduation processing. Support services provided to students at the TAMU Center at McAllen will include: recruiting, admissions, veteran’s affairs, international students, and judicial affairs.

Library resources will be available on-line and through inter-library loan. The institution indicates that no additional resources will be required to be placed at the TAMU Center at McAllen.

Security at the center will be provided by TAMU Center at McAllen will be coordinated through the main campus police department.

TAMU is in the process of negotiating with the City of McAllen to provide additional bus routes to make the TAMU Center at McAllen more accessible to students.

7. Financial Arrangements to Support the Center:

The land for the proposed TAMU Center at McAllen will be donated to the City of McAllen by the developers of the Tres Lagos development. The City of McAllen will lease the land to TAMU through a long term lease agreement.

The estimated cost of building construction is \$40,000,000. The City of McAllen is contributing \$10,000,000 towards the construction costs. TAMU will provide \$30,000,000 in funding towards construction costs from the Permanent University Fund (PUF). The Offices of the Attorney General approved the use of PUF monies for this purpose, if the establishment of the Center receives approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The table below summarizes the anticipated 5-year operational costs and revenues of the TAMU Center at McAllen.

New Five-Year Costs		New Five-Year Funding	
Personnel		Reallocated Funds	\$2,200,000
Faculty	\$5,352,750		
Administration	\$1,100,000		
Graduate Assistants	\$0		
Clerical/Staff	\$1,458,000		
Other Personnel	\$0		
Facilities, Equipment & IT Resources	\$4,200,000	Anticipated New Formula Funding	\$1,231,845
Supplies and Materials	\$450,000	Statutory Tuition	\$2,946,950
Library	\$250,000	Designated Tuition	\$6,464,430
Other: ABET	\$50,000	Course Fees	\$66,570
		Other: HEAF	
Total New Costs	\$12,860,750	Total New Funding	\$12,909,795

Dr. Rex C. Peebles, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce, will be available to answer questions.